

**CWAC Meeting**  
*Thursday, July 10, 2014*  
*1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.*  
**Lawrence Hall Youth Services**  
65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1300  
Chicago, IL 60601

**I. – Director’s Report**

Acting Director Gregg reported/addressed the following:

- Rate Increase
  - Governor Quinn signed the budget bill which included rate increases for foster care providers as well as institution and group home providers. The foster parent COLA increase was also supported by the Governor’s office. The rate increase schedule is as follow
    - 4% increase to foster parent
    - 5% increase to foster care providers
    - 2% increase to institutions and group homes
- DCFS Leadership Staff Changes
  - Denice Murray, Chief of Staff
  - Carolyn Ross, Deputy Director of Policy and Advocacy (formerly ran by Greg Donathan)
  - Michelle Jackson, General Counsel
  - George Vennikandam, Deputy Director of Regulation and Monitoring
  - Michael Ruppe, Acting Chief of Bureau of Operations
- CWAC Sub-Committees
  - Affected by Agency Leadership Changes and are in need of new co-chairs
    - Dully- Involved Youth
    - Medicaid
    - Older Adolescent
  - Arlene Habbach will co-chair Finance & Administration
  - Differential Response committee is being revived and will be co-chaired by Teddy Savas and Stephen Budde
- Health and Human Services Administration for Children & Families
  - Child and Family Services report and the five-year strategic plan report were both due on June 30. DCFS was granted an extension until July 31<sup>st</sup> of which the reports were submitted on time.
    - Five-year strategic plan goals
      - *Safety* - to reduce the occurrence of repeat male treatment and out of home care
      - *Permanency* - to improve the timeliness of permanency achievement for child in - out of homecare
      - *Well-Being*- to create the capacity of families to provide for their children’s needs.

**II. – Committee Reports**

**1. Outcomes/Performance Based Contracts**

- Data is being collected from several sources (INTEX, IRTLP, Choices, PII, Re-Hospitalization, etc.) to ensure comprehensive performance and

outcome data that would inform the entire system and kids across the system

- Challenges
  - Getting usable data in a timely matter due to technological issues.
  - Finding out data that is collected and no longer needed

## **2. Finance & Administration**-Mike Shaver gave an overview of the last FAS meeting

- Budget Update
  - House Bill 2747 – Grants Accountability Act
    - In need of list of contracts affected from the department
  - Contracts
    - Workgroup looking at rate structure particularly within performance contracts – traditional foster care relative foster care.
  - Announced he would be leaving Illinois and will become the new CEO of Children's Home Society of Florida

## **3. IT –**

- **Current Goals**
  - The integrated and accessible reporting system
    - Will give users the ability to scan and store hard copy documents and electronic record for easy retrieval and efficiency
    - Will be more user friendly for intact family programs, independent living and transitional programs.
    - Better connecting IT, the department and prevention systems with other CWAC sub-committees to collaborate a strategic plan
  - Technology Governance Board Goals
    - Data Accuracy
    - Mobility/ access to the system

## **4. Medicaid/Managed Care**

- **1115 Waiver**
  - The committee reported that they are being updated on the waiver and it was submitted.
  - The focus is to develop implementation plans for a system of care for children's mental health service or behavioral health services that cuts across all the different child serving departments within Illinois government. It puts an emphasis on home and community based care and reducing lengths of stay in high end treatment facilities.
  - Continued work into looking at foster care splits.

## **5. Foster Care**

- **Current Goals**
  - Permanency Planning
    - Formalizing the recommendations on specific performance by region - prioritizing those recommendations that we have the biggest impact.
  - Recommendations

- Have the training committee to create an online refresher training that would review critical changes to policy and procedures for those staff who have been formally CWEL and CREP certified.
- Improve services for geographically spread families

## **6. Residential/High End –**

- **Current Work/Discussions from last residential meeting**
  - Development of the level system for monitoring for residential
  - Primary measures and informational measures and some of the new measures of education and absence of mal treatment that the group has been talking about
  - Developing a plan to get performance data out to providers in a timelier manner...possibly quarterly.

## **7. Older Adolescents**

- Countdown to 21
  - The policy guide has been released along with the training dates
  - All agencies serving 19-20 year olds are required to have a certified financial literacy instructor on staff
  - The goal is to have each agency with a certified trainer by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Older Adolescents is currently accepting new members

## **8. Dually Involved**

- Currently working on local trainings

## **9. Training**

- Items discussed
  - Well-Being – How can we be more supportive to each other in terms of education, physical health and mental health, stability, and specialty, cultured specialty?
  - Digital literacy for care givers
  - Five year plan
    - Training needs assessment
    - Racial equity training

## **10. HYPP**

- What is it? A two year federal grant to reduce the risk of homelessness and our current and former wards of the state.
- The current plan is to apply for the five year implementation grant
- Voice of the Youth
  - To get more detail specifics from former wards that have emancipated out and were homeless there will be a series of focus groups in Chicago, East St. Louis, Aurora, Champaign, and Springfield.
  - Specialty Groups that will be included are:
    - Pregnant/Parenting youth
    - LGBTQ